

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING



To: Local and Intermediate School Superintendents

High School Principals

cc: Assessment Coordinators

From: Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D.

Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

Date: September 5, 2006

Subject: Qualifying Scores for Dual Enrollment

Public Act 594 of 2004, one of the pieces of legislation that created the Michigan Merit Examination (MME), requires the Michigan Department of Education to set the passing scores for students seeking to dual enroll while still in high school. The MME legislation indicates that the Superintendent of Public Instruction is to:

- "(a) approve 1 or more readiness assessments that may be used for the purposes of determining eligible students beginning in the 2006-2007 school year. Readiness assessments shall be aligned with state learning standards and shall provide high school students with an early indication of proficiency in the subject areas of English, mathematics, reading, social studies and science and contain a comprehensive career planning program, and
- (b) determine qualifying scores for each subject area component of a readiness assessment that indicates readiness to enroll in a postsecondary course in that subject area under this act."

Staff of the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) has established passing scores on two examinations, the ACT PLAN assessment and the College Board PSAT assessment. The PLAN and PSAT can be used by sophomores, as well as juniors (in the fall), to qualify for dual enrollment. Once juniors participate in the MME in the spring of their junior year, their MME scores will be used for dual enrollment decisions. Juniors will need to score at performance levels 1 or 2 on MME to qualify for dual enrollment.

Passing scores for the PLAN and PSAT were established by OEAA by concording MEAP to the proposed MME, and from MME to both ACT/PLAN and to SAT/PSAT. The passing scores are shown below:

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER REGINALD M. TURNER • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

PLAN Assessment

Content Area	Minimum Passing Scores
Mathematics	18
Reading	17
Science	19
English	21

PSAT Assessment

PSAT Test Section	Content Area	Minimum Passing Scores
Critical Reading	Reading	44
Writing Skills	Writing	49
Math	Mathematics	45

For the content area of social studies, no college entrance readiness test data exists. Therefore, local school districts should use available assessments or other information to make eligibility decisions. One source of this information might be the grade 9 MEAP social studies test information; performance levels 1 and 2 (Exceeded or Met) is a reasonable criterion for dual enrollment decisions in the area of social studies.

Please feel free to contact Ed Roeber at (517) 373-0739 or via e-mail at roebere@michigan.gov, if you or your staff have any questions about the use of the PLAN or PSAT for dual enrollment.